

SENATOR REBECCA RIOS
Senate Democratic Leader

SENATOR LUPE CONTRERAS
Senate Assistant Democratic Leader



SENATOR VICTORIA STEELE
Senate Democratic Co-Whip

SENATOR MARTÍN QUEZADA
Senate Democratic Co-Whip

ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE DEMOCRATS

Emily W. Murphy
General Services Administration
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20405
November 23, 2020

Dear Ms. Murphy,

The unique success of American democracy has always hinged on the assurance of a smooth transition of power between Presidents. That transition of power and acceptance has now been called into question by your administration and risks throwing our democracy into needless chaos and upheaval. We write to express our deep concern over your refusal to comply with the Presidential Transition Act and ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the November presidential election and the next President of the United States. We urge you to correct this error immediately.

As Arizona Legislators we are on the front lines of rendering aid and assistance to our constituents and have spent the last seven months advocating for resources to help Arizonans and small businesses survive this pandemic. A delayed transition caused by your failure to acknowledge Joe Biden as the winner directly harm us and our constituents. As of this writing, Arizona has over 300,000 COVID cases and over 6,000 deaths. These numbers are only going to skyrocket over the holiday and flu season and we desperately need a cohesive federal response to combat the pandemic.

According to Stout Risius Ross, a recognized industry leader in analytics, between 112,700 and 120,000 renters in Arizona are at risk of being evicted upon the January 1st lifting of the CDC moratorium. Fully 55 percent of all renters in Arizona, and 62 percent of all renters with incomes below \$35,000, are at least somewhat likely to be evicted within the next two months due to nonpayment of rent. Further, Arizona lost nearly 74,000 jobs in October, and more than 345,000 Arizona residents received some form of unemployment compensation, according to the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

The pandemic, and Arizona's housing and unemployment crisis are only going to worsen in the weeks and months to come. Your delayed acknowledgement of the new incoming president is both unlawful, unreasonable and detrimental to our entire country and it's system of democracy. Otherwise you risk the stability of our democracy and our ability to protect Americans from the pandemic that is wreaking havoc on our country.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Rebecca Rios, Senate Democratic Leader
LD 27

(b) (6)

LUPE CONTRERAS
Senate Assistant Democratic Leader
LD 19

(b) (6)

Martin Quezada
Senate Democratic Co-whip
LD 29

(b) (6)

Victoria Steele, Senate Democratic Co-whip
LD 9



Luke A. Bronin
Mayor

November 23, 2020

The Honorable Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy,

The Presidential Transition Act empowers you to ascertain the result of the presidential election that took place on November 3, 2020. The result of the election is clear beyond any reasonable doubt. On behalf of the City of Hartford, I am writing to urge you to acknowledge and formally ascertain the result of the 2020 Presidential election so that an orderly, effective transition may begin.

Your failure to recognize President-Elect Biden and Vice President-Elect Harris' victory is delaying the transition process. In the middle of a global pandemic, that delay puts the lives of Americans at risk.

The success or failure of the transition will have direct consequences for the lives of residents in my city. As nearly two hundred public health experts wrote to you last week, the incoming Biden-Harris administration must prepare for a massive, coordinated vaccine distribution effort. In addition, the incoming administration must understand local capacity to test, trace, and treat the novel coronavirus, and review existing mitigation strategies.¹ They must assess the status of existing relief programs and prepare for the implementation of new relief programs that are desperately needed to help thousands of Hartford residents and businesses survive the unprecedented economic disruptions resulting from this pandemic. All of that requires the incoming administration to work hand-in-hand with the dedicated federal civil servants who are doing that work today.

Beyond the concrete and consequential damage done by delaying the transition, your refusal to ascertain the results of the 2020 presidential election is wholly unsupported by precedent or by reason. Your actions provide an unjustified air of legitimacy to unfounded conspiracy theories that are deeply damaging to our nation.

For the good of our country, our democracy, and for the safety of everyone in America, I urge you to ascertain the results of the election and allow an effective presidential transition process to begin immediately.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Luke A. Bronin
Mayor

¹ Letter from Health Experts to the General Services Administration, [November 19, 2020](#).

550 Main Street
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JEFFERSON VAN DREW, NEW JERSEY

November 23, 2020

The Honorable Emily Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW,
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

I write to you out of concern that your ongoing refusal to grant the Biden-Harris Transition Team access to the post-election resources required by the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 is severely hampering critical areas of the Committee on Education and Labor's (Committee) interest.¹ Therefore, I ask that you immediately reverse your decision and grant the Biden-Harris Transition Team access to critical services and facilities specified in the Presidential Transition Act and the millions of dollars in funding that Congress appropriated on October 1, 2020, for transition activities under the Act.²

In passing the Presidential Transition Act, Congress explicitly warned: "Any disruption occasioned by the transfer of executive power could produce results detrimental to the safety and well-being of the United States and its people."³ Congress reaffirmed the importance of a timely and orderly transition by passing the Presidential Transition Enhancement Act of 2019 with overwhelming bipartisan support. President Trump signed this bill on March 3, 2020, which expanded the transition resources available to an incoming presidential administration.⁴

¹ 3 U.S.C. § 102 note. Under the Presidential Transition Act, it is your responsibility as Administrator of the General Services Administration to begin transition activities as soon as you ascertain "the apparent successful candidates for the office of President and Vice President." President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris have clearly satisfied any good faith reading of this standard. There is no legitimate path forward for President Trump and therefore no valid legal basis to withhold the ascertainment designation under the Presidential Transition Act.

² Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-159.

³ 3 U.S.C. § 102 note.

⁴ Presidential Transition Enhancement Act of 2019, Pub. L. No. 116-121.

Our country is facing an unprecedented global pandemic that is killing 2,000 Americans per day, and any further delay in an effective government response will have devastating consequences.⁵ As you are surely aware, an effective government response during this time requires an effective transition of government. The disruption caused by your decision to withhold the ascertainment designation under the Presidential Transition Act has been particularly apparent in the areas of this Committee's jurisdiction: health, education, and labor.

In preventing the Biden-Harris Transition Team from accessing comprehensive data from the Department of Health and Human Services, you are compromising the incoming Biden Administration's ability to put in place the necessary policies for testing and treatment of the American public during a pandemic that is raging exponentially out of control. In addition, despite the promising news of several vaccine candidates, the Biden-Harris Transition Team is unable to fully and appropriately continue to plan for a potential vaccine, including vital engagement efforts with local communities, without access to government COVID-19 data.

Your stalled action is also undermining the federal government's ability to adequately respond to the COVID-19 pandemic in the education space. States and communities with high rates of COVID-19 transmission are navigating the physical re-opening some schools and keeping others virtual, all while managing staffing shortages. The Department of Education plays a central role supporting states and school districts with timely resources and guidance as they manage this extremely challenging period. It is essential for the nation's school administrators, teachers, and students that the transition to the incoming Biden Administration is as seamless as possible.

Additionally, the current Administration has suspended all student loan payments through December 31, 2020 due to pandemic-induced economic hardship but has not indicated whether that suspension will continue through the end of President Trump's term. This could result in a turbulent restart and stoppage of the student loan servicing apparatus, which would cost immense taxpayer resources and confuse borrowers. The incoming Biden Administration must have frank conversations with current policymakers and have immediate access to the Department of Education's resources. Without this transfer of information and resources, the Biden Administration will face unnecessary obstacles to ensure the nation's 40 million student loan borrowers obtain appropriate guidance and relief.

The country's workers are also experiencing severe hardship under this pandemic. In order to hit the ground running on protecting the workforce during this pandemic, the Biden-Harris Transition Team must have access to information on the status of a draft COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard to protect health care workers, first responders, and other essential workers. The current lack of a COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard has already compromised the life and health of workers and done untold damage to the government's ability to tackle the pandemic in the workplace. The continued delay in sharing critical information with the Biden-Harris Transition Team regarding Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's)

⁵ *U.S. Returns to Daily Coronavirus Death Toll of Over 2,000 Lives*, U.S. News (Nov. 20, 2020) (online at: <https://www.usnews.com/news/national-news/articles/2020-11-20/us-returns-to-daily-coronavirus-death-toll-of-over-2-000-lives>).

The Honorable Emily Murphy

November 23, 2020

Page 3

emergency temporary standard unnecessarily endangers the lives of our workers and causes extensive delay to the reopening of the economy, which is essential for economic recovery.

In addition, the Biden-Harris Transition Team must also have immediate access to information about the impacts to workers from COVID-19 that have been uncovered during government inspections, the resources available to hire additional workplace inspectors to ensure ongoing safety in the workplace, and the status of retaliation cases filed by workers who have stepped up to report safety concerns in the absence of physical OSHA inspections. Your decision to deny access to this and other information will cause a chaotic and ineffective transition that risks allowing the American workforce to become incapacitated by this pandemic.

The urgent needs of the country must not be subordinated to political gamesmanship. As a result of the pandemic, any delay in a peaceful and effective transition will have catastrophic consequences on the safety and well-being of the United States and its people. As Administrator of the General Services Administration, it is your responsibility to follow the law and make the ascertainment designation without any further delay.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

Chairman

Cc: The Honorable Virginia Foxx, Ranking Member



COMMISSIONER ELLEN L. WEINTRAUB
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 10, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
via email: emily.murphy@gsa.gov

Administrator Murphy,

I am deeply disturbed by your delay in issuing President-Elect Biden the ascertainment letter his team needs to begin its transition.

I write to you today in my individual capacity as a Commissioner at the Federal Election Commission, one of the federal agencies that participates in the presidential transition process. I am of course concerned that delay on your part will hinder the Commission's ability to fulfill its responsibilities to the incoming Administration.

But I am far more concerned with the larger issue here. The new Administration will take office at a time of grave public health and economic crisis for our country. As of yesterday, the pandemic has killed [more than 238,000 Americans](#) and is accelerating its rampage across America.

The Biden Administration needs to hit the ground running like few before it. The resources that GSA contributes to this process are essential to its success. Your delay is damaging the ability of President-Elect Biden to fully address the pandemic head-on when he takes office.

The basis of your delay is not clear. It is not the practice of GSA administrators to wait weeks until the states have released official results, nor until the Electoral College has met and voted. GSA administrators' consistent practice has been to begin working with the apparent successful candidates almost immediately.

There has been no doubt since Saturday that Joseph R. Biden, Jr. and Kamala D. Harris are the apparent successful candidates for the office of President and Vice President, respectively. The race was called in their favor on Saturday morning by the Associated Press and every other major news organization after those organizations calculated that it was mathematically impossible for lawsuits or the outstanding ballots to change the outcome.

As to the ascertainment you are required to make, there is no relevant difference between this election and the elections of 2008 and 2016, the last two times the presidency transitioned to a new officeholder.

In all three cases (2008, 2016, 2020), the polls closed, enough votes were counted to mathematically determine the result, and the Associated Press and the other major news organizations projected the winner.

And in the previous two instances, GSA's Administrator acted swiftly. In 2008, Acting GSA Administrator James A. Williams provided President-Elect Obama's transition team with its ascertainment letter [one day after the election](#). In 2016, Donald Trump was deemed the apparent successful candidate for president on the basis of nothing more than the same conclusion the Associated Press and other major news organizations have reached as to President-Elect Biden.

Yet you have failed to ascertain that President-Elect Biden is the apparent winner of the presidential election. Why? If you are relying on criteria not used in previous elections to withhold your ascertainment, you owe the American people an immediate explanation of exactly what they are.

I am aware that several legal challenges are proceeding through the courts. They should not keep you from clearing the way for President-Elect Biden's transition to proceed. The Presidential Transition Act's use of the term "apparent" calls upon you to make your ascertainment with less than 100% certainty in the election results. The result of this presidential election is no less certain than it was in 2008 or 2016. Even if every lawsuit that has been filed this year were to succeed, they simply do not challenge enough ballots to affect the outcome of the presidential race.

Comparisons to the 2000 election are inapposite. James Baker, who led George W. Bush's legal and political team during the 2000 Florida recount, says there are "[huge differences](#)" between the two situations.

One thing that *is* different in this election – unprecedented in American history – is that the incumbent president has so far refused to concede the election he has apparently lost. This is irrelevant to your decision. When Mr. Trump objects to the election results, he does so as one of the candidates who participated in the election, not as the nation's Chief Executive, and not as your boss. His objections carry no official weight and they should not sway you from your duty under the law to immediately issue a letter of ascertainment to President-Elect Biden.

The next Administration faces a daunting job the moment it takes office. Every day, every hour that you stand in the way, you damage its chances of success. Your true bosses – the American people – desperately need you to get this presidential transition rolling immediately.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Ellen L. Weintraub
Commissioner, Federal Election Commission

cc: Mary Gibert, Federal Transition Coordinator, mary.gibert@gsa.gov
presidentialtransition2020@gsa.gov



November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy,

“These are the times that try men’s souls.” Those words written by Thomas Paine are fitting for the circumstances in which we currently find ourselves. A health crisis that has tragically taken the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans too soon, millions out of work, and millions more trying to figure out how they will put food on their table, educate their children, and make it to tomorrow, because they believe in their heart of hearts that while weeping may endure for a night, joy cometh in the morning.

During this time the residents and businesses of Augusta, Georgia have shared in the hardships and have experienced excruciating loss. In our city alone, we have seen 9,652 COVID-19 cases, 211 COVID-19 deaths, and another 675 people hospitalized due to COVID-19. Over the two week period of November 5-18, we recorded 867 cases, which is approximately 66 cases a day or 433 cases a week.

As we enter the second wave, and as we are now on the verge of having four vaccines, it is critically important that President-Elect Biden’s incoming administration be able to hit the ground running so that we can have a cohesive response to the rising numbers of COVID-19 patients, a plan to adequately and fairly distribute the first round of vaccines, and support for our small businesses so that they can remain open. That is why I am imploring you to adhere to the Presidential Transition Act and certify President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 Presidential election and allow the transition to begin.

The lives of hundreds of thousands of hardworking Americans, thousands of Georgians and hundreds of Augustans are in your hands at this very moment. Mothers and fathers who are trying their hardest to support their family, nurses on the front lines caring for the sick and elderly in overrun intensive care units, businesses trying to remain open,



and children hoping to return to school so they can learn and see their friends again are all counting on you.

A delay in this process will cause, in some grave instances, irreparable harm to those who call Augusta home. I am asking that you help us prevent the spread of this sickness and more death by allowing the Presidential transition team to begin the important work of synchronizing their knowledge and resources with those of the various executive departments so that we have a smooth and successful transfer of leadership. A transfer that is the very bedrock of our democracy and dominance as the greatest nation in the world. A process that can save the lives of residents in Augusta, and across this great nation.

After the most famous and oft-quoted line in Thomas Paine's *The Crisis* is this sentence, "The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman." We are asking, on this day, that you stand in service to your country.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Hardie Davis, Jr.
Mayor

SENATE OF VIRGINIA

LIONELL SPRUILL, SR.
5TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
PART OF THE CITIES OF CHESAPEAKE
AND NORFOLK
P.O. Box 5403
CHESAPEAKE, VIRGINIA 23324



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
COMMERCE AND LABOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS
REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES
TRANSPORTATION

November 23, 2020

Ms. Emily W. Murphy, Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear. Ms. Murphy:

I write to express my strong concern over your refusal to comply with the Presidential Transition Act and ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the November presidential election and the next President of the United States. **I urge you to correct this error immediately.** As a member of the Senate of Virginia, I represent over 240,000 constituents who believe in democracy and the system which protects it. Your actions have strong consequences which put our citizens at risk.

A delayed transition caused by your failure to ascertain Joe Biden as the winner will directly harm us and our constituents. As Thomas Jefferson wrote, "*Do you want to know who you are? Do not ask, ACT! This will delineate and define you.*" Your delayed ascertainment is both unlawful and unreasonable. Do not continue to delay, you are putting public health and safety at risk as well as our democracy!

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Lionell Spruill, Sr.
Member, Senate of Virginia
5th District



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

On behalf of the more than 600,000 Americans I serve as mayor of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, I am writing to urgently request that the General Services Administration immediately cease the transparently political obstruction of the ascertainment of President-Elect Joe Biden.

It is critical that you do now that which you should have done more than two weeks ago when the results of the 2020 election became clear: meet your legal obligations under the Presidential Transition Act and the United States Constitution, and begin the peaceful transition of power.

The failure of the General Services Administration to comply and execute its basic duties not only violates the cherished precedent honored by past Democratic and Republican Administrations alike throughout the history of our Republic; it jeopardizes our national security, our economic recovery, and our ability to defeat the deadly COVID-19 pandemic that has already taken the lives of over 600 of my city's residents.

There is no doubt who won the 2020 presidential election. So much depends on the smooth transfer of power, and even more so in these times of crisis: responding to the coronavirus virus, distributing a vaccine quickly and efficiently when it is available, rebuilding our economy ravaged by the pandemic, getting help to workers and small and mid-sized businesses, supporting those facing hunger, eviction and other desperate challenges. Every day of needless, unconscionable delay means more of our fellow Americans will face serious illness, financial ruin and even death.

It is time to put country over party and fulfill your duties as a federal official and ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 Presidential election so the transition can finally begin.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Tom Barrett
Mayor



CITY OF PITTSBURGH
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MAYOR WILLIAM PEDUTO

November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy,

On behalf of the City of Pittsburgh, I write to urge you to comply with the Presidential Transition Act and ascertain President-elect Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election. A commitment to the peaceful transfer of power is the bedrock of American democracy and an effective transfer of power is critical to ensuring that the federal government is prepared to meet the needs of the American people. Your failure to ascertain President-elect Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election not only undermines the democratic institutions of our nation but inhibits the incoming administration's ability to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Any continued delay in the presidential transition will have devastating ramifications in Pittsburgh and across the country – deeply affecting the everyday lives of our constituents and needlessly putting more American lives at risk.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the Trump Administration has consistently stressed that the emergency response effort must be locally executed, while emphasizing the nature and importance of federal support. Here in Pittsburgh, we host the largest health systems in our region and employ the medics, police, refuse collectors and other workers on the front lines battling the pandemic. Despite deep cuts to essential tax revenues, the City of Pittsburgh continues to incur increased financial costs associated with managing the emergency and public health response, continuing to provide essential services, obtaining critical protective equipment for our frontline workers and working to provide emergency support to vulnerable residents. Without effective federal support, it is untenable for the City of Pittsburgh to continue to execute an effective public health response and provide needed assistance to residents and small businesses reeling from the economic hardships of the coronavirus.

Your ascertainment of President-elect Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election is imperative to ensuring that the incoming administration has the information and resources necessary for an effective and coordinated federal response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As cases continue to spike across the country, continued delays in the presidential transition process could

lead to delayed distribution of the vaccine, access issues for personal protective equipment and other essential medical supplies, lack of necessary relief for small businesses and vulnerable communities, and failure to provide essential guidance to state and local governments in the height of the pandemic. The impact would be devastating to the quality of life of Pittsburgh's residents and to the long-term economic recovery of our region.

Extraordinary times demand collaboration from government to support the people they serve. I urge you to immediately ascertain President-elect Joe Biden as the winner of the 2020 presidential election. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may have (bill.peduto@pittsburghpa.gov).

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

William Peduto
Mayor of Pittsburgh

SENATE OF VIRGINIA

GHAZALA F. HASHMI
10TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
ALL OF POWHATAN COUNTY; PART OF
CHESTERFIELD COUNTY; AND PART OF
THE CITY OF RICHMOND

P. O. Box 396
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
NATURAL RESOURCES
EDUCATION AND HEALTH
GENERAL LAWS AND TECHNOLOGY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

November 23, 2020

Ms. Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20405

VIA EMAIL

Dear Ms. Murphy,

I write to express my deepest concerns over your refusal to comply with the Presidential Transition Act and ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the November presidential election and as the next President of the United States. I urge you to correct this error immediately. A smooth and efficient transition of Presidential power is both a cornerstone of our democracy, and it is also absolutely crucial in the contexts of national security, public confidence in the electoral processes, and for the vital response to an escalating pandemic that has already claimed hundreds of thousands of American lives. Your personal refusal to ascertain the results contradicts the responsibilities to which you have been assigned in the GSA.

This delayed transition caused by your failure to ascertain Joe Biden as the winner directly harms Virginians and my constituents in the following ways:

- **The delay threatens to severely hamper COVID response.** As President-elect Biden and his team of experts work to get the pandemic under control, it's critical for the transition team to be able to meet with the government officials who are handling the pandemic response. Every day lost delays their ability to effectively plan this response, putting thousands of Americans at risk of serious illness or death. Your inaction is placing the lives of my constituents at severe risk and also endangering our dedicated healthcare professionals who are already overwhelmed by the ongoing pandemic.

- **The delay harms our already struggling economy.** The Trump Administration's decision to block government employees from meeting with the transition in the middle of an economic crisis harms our small and medium-sized businesses; delays the delivery of stimulus checks for millions of low-income Americans; and prevents the incoming Biden-Harris Administration from ensuring food assistance remains available to Americans who are relying on emergency SNAP funds. The lines at the Food Banks in my district grow longer every day, and thousands of Virginia families--like families all across America--are in desperate need of immediate assistance.
- **The delay puts national security at risk.** As the authors of the 9/11 Report have noted, presidential transitions "are a time of great vulnerability for our nation." The turnover of government is hard even in the best of times, which is why Congress has provided support to the President-elect under the Presidential Transition Act—support that is designed to ensure that the President-elect is ready on Day One. The transition must access sensitive government information to brief nominees and prepare to confront the threats that our nation faces. As you well know, until you ascertain the election, agency review teams are unable to access classified information.

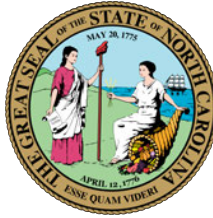
Your delay in ascertaining the election results is both unlawful and unreasonable. In every previous election the GSA Administrator has recognized the winner of the election as soon as the outcome was clear, which is the case today. The GSA Administration has routinely ascertained the winner of the election weeks before recounts and election-related litigation concluded. The Trump campaign's lawsuits have been consistently exposed as groundless and lacking evidence; in fact, two dozen have been dismissed just since Election Day. To delay ascertainment based on such lawsuits violates the text and intent of the statute, and effectively gives the losing candidate a veto over the smooth transition of power.

Americans expect you to adhere to the responsibilities of your office. We expect you to act urgently and resolve this vital matter to which you are entrusted. We require that you ascertain the results of the 2020 Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections without further delay.

Sincerely yours,

(b) (6)

Ghazala F. Hashmi, PhD
Member, Virginia Senate



The North Carolina General Assembly

Senate

SENATOR KIRK DEVIERE
19TH DISTRICT

OFFICE: 515 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
300 N. SALISBURY STREET
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APPROPRIATIONS ON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT AND AGING

TRANSPORTATION

CAUCUS:

MEMBER OF THE JOINT MILITARY CAUCUS

November 23, 2020

The Honorable Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1000 F Street N.W.,
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

I am writing on behalf of the citizens of Cumberland County to express my strong concerns regarding your refusal to comply with the Presidential Transition Act and ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden as the winner of the November presidential election and the next President of the United States.

As someone who represents parts of Fort Bragg and the families that serve there, I urge you to correct this error immediately. It is in the best interest of the country and our national security interests for there to be a smooth transition. President-Elect Biden's transition team should be given access to any and all information in full compliance with the Presidential Transition Act.

A delayed transition caused by your failure to ascertain President-Elect Biden as the winner will have serious and direct impacts on our country. As you are aware, President-Elect Biden is currently unable to be fully briefed on credible threats against the United States and is not being given access to complete and current information on key national security decisions. Notably, the 9/11 Commission Report pointed out that the abbreviated presidential transition as a major contributing factor to the context in which 9/11 occurred. These are major decisions that will have long-term implications on our country.

Your delayed ascertainment is both unlawful and unreasonable. It is clear that President-Elect Joe Biden won the November election and that President Trump's lawsuits cannot change the outcome.

As we are facing a crisis on multiple fronts, now is the time to put country over partisan politics. I urge you to ascertain President-Elect Joe Biden's victory and help promote a smooth transition.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Senator Kirk deViere

NC Senate District 19 | Cumberland County



**CITY OF ALBANY
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**
24 EAGLE STREET
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12207
TELEPHONE (518) 434-5100
WWW.ALBANYNY.GOV

KATHY SHEEHAN
MAYOR

November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

As a mayor, I have watched with growing concern as you continue to refuse to accept the result of the 2020 presidential election. I am writing to urge you to comply with the Presidential Transition Act, acknowledge that President-Elect Joe Biden is the winner and provide for a smooth transition to the next administration.

Communities like mine across this country are struggling as we manage the dual challenges of a growing pandemic and economic uncertainty. Our small and medium sized businesses need support. Our families, particularly those impacted by layoffs in the hospitality industry, need food security and our schools need guidance and assistance as we try to ensure that an entire generation of young people don't fall behind.

Cities like Albany are hopeful that a vaccine will be available early next year, but many questions remain about distribution and access.

Every day that you delay ascertaining President-Elect Biden as the winner of this election threatens the effective and efficient transition of our great Democracy. Please think about your fellow citizens who need Washington to work, now, more than ever and do the right thing for our country and our future. We need you to start this transition now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Kathy Sheehan
Mayor, City of Albany

REGINALD BOLDING
DEMOCRATIC LEADER-ELECT
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DISTRICT 27



COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION
FEDERAL RELATIONS

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Ms. Murphy,

When you were confirmed by the Senate in 2017 you said, and I quote, "I am not here to garner headlines or make a name for myself. My goal is to do my part in making the federal government more efficient, effective and responsive to the American people."

While it's too late to live up to your stated goals, it is indeed time to do your part. Long past time, in fact.

I write as Leader of the Arizona House Democratic Caucus and on behalf of the constituents of Arizona Legislative District 27 to express our strong concern over your refusal to comply with the Presidential Transition Act. The American people have emphatically spoken – along with more than two dozen judges – and Joe Biden will be the next president of the United States.

As a federal public servant, you work for the American people – not merely the current President -- and will be answerable to them not him. A delayed transition caused by your misguided failure to do your job will harm the people of Arizona and the country by hamstringing the nation's response to COVID-19 and potentially delaying vaccine distribution, while giving comfort and confidence to our enemies around the world. As a matter of national security and patriotic duty to your country, we urge you to correct this illegal and unreasonable error immediately.

Once again, I urge you to remember the oath you swore and to do your job. Be "effective and responsive to the American people" and uphold the system of government we all hold dear. History will remember your response.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Representative Reginald Bolding, Jr.
Democratic Leader-Elect, LD 27



November 23, 2020

Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Administrator Murphy:

I am very concerned about the delay in your decision to ascertain that President-elect Biden is the winner of the November Presidential election, preventing the timely and rightful transition to the next administration. As a fellow public servant, I recognize you are confronted with difficult decisions on a regular basis, but the fact that you are delaying this critical process in the middle of a once-in-a-generation pandemic will cost lives.

The City of Dayton, our larger region and the state of Ohio have been hard hit by the coronavirus pandemic. The economic impact has been felt by Dayton families dealing with food insecurity, local renters concerned they may be evicted because they cannot make their rent payment, and schools and health care organizations that lack adequate PPE having to make impossible choices about their workers' safety. Important decisions by our federal government to help address impacts on the local level are being delayed because of your failure to ascertain that President-elect Biden is the winner of the Presidential election.

The recent news that several of the Covid-19 vaccine candidates have been found to be effective is a bright spot in what has been a very difficult time for our country, but without a timely transition to get President-elect Biden's team briefed on national distribution of the vaccine American lives will be put in jeopardy. This is unacceptable.

I understand that you are under incredible pressure by the sitting President and members of the Republican party to continue to delay ascertaining President-elect Biden to begin the formal transition process. While my focus in this letter has been how your official inaction will make the impact of coronavirus pandemic on everyday Americans worse, the potential

for nefarious action in the national security and foreign policy space is increased as well as a result of a delayed transition to President-elect Biden.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Nan Whaley
Mayor of Dayton